

***Festuca* spp. Herbaceous Vegetation**

COMMON NAME	Fescue species Herbaceous Vegetation
SYNONYM	Cultivated Meadow
PHYSIOGNOMIC CLASS	Herbaceous Vegetation (V)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBCLASS	Perennial graminoid vegetation (V.A)
PHYSIOGNOMIC GROUP	Temperate or subpolar grassland (V.A.5)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBGROUP	Natural/Semi-natural (V.A.5.N)
FORMATION	Medium-tall sod temperate or subpolar grassland (V.A.5.N.c)

ALLIANCE *Festuca* spp. Herbaceous Alliance

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL 2

USFWS WETLAND SYSTEM Upland

RANGE

Globally

This ruderal vegetation occurs throughout the southeastern United States and beyond. It is documented as occurring in Arkansas, Georgia, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

This community occurs in the open fields of Cades Cove on the Cades Cove quadrangle. It was not observed on the Mount Le Conte quadrangle, nor is it likely there.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

Globally

This vegetation occurs in pastures, hayfields, and old pastures. It is more-or-less cultural, though sometimes no longer actively maintained.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES

Globally

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
No information	

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
No information	

CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

Globally

Fescue sp.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Fescue sp.

VEGETATION DESCRIPTION

Globally

Open graminoid-dominated vegetation, sometimes nearly monospecifically dominated by *Festuca* sp. This vegetation can also be very diverse and contain many native species of grasses, sedges, and forbs.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

The open fields in and around Cades Cove appear to be quite variable in composition. Some areas are dominated by *Festuca* spp. and *Andropogon glomeratus*. More information is needed to better describe compositional variation in this community.

OTHER NOTEWORTHY SPECIES

No information

CONSERVATION RANK GW

RANK JUSTIFICATION

This vegetation is dominated by an exotic species, is of anthropogenic origin, and is thus not a conservation priority.

DATABASE CODE C EGL004048

COMMENTS

Globally

None

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Park scientists are attempting the restoration of native grasses in some parts of Cade Cove.

REFERENCES

None